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27 January 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 27 January 1960

PRESENT: General Cabell, Mr. Gray, Mr. Irwin, Mr. Merchant,
Mr. Riddleberger, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Smith

1. University of North Carolina Program

Mr. Gray told the Board that the University of North Carolina is running a special course and seminar for Cuban students, in early

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2. Economic Conference of Underdeveloped Nations, in Havana

Mr. Gray started a general discussion of this conference, inquiring particularly if there is anything OCB can do.

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3. Afghanistan

Mr. Gray called the Board's attention to a cable from Ambassador Byroade in Kabul, in which the Ambassador had suggested participation by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in some construction work in Afghanistan. He said that ICA is discussing the proposal with Defense.

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4. Publicity on Soviet Missile Failures

The Board discussed the advantages that might be gained by publicizing failures that might occur in the Soviet missile tests, in the event that they might be actually visible by overt observers. General Cabell suggested that contact might be established with GMAIC in order to assure that appropriate officials would be made aware of the facts surrounding such failures; he alluded to the

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5. Possible Testing of Atlas Missile in the Pacific

Mr. Gray suggested the possibility that the U.S. might consider testing an Atlas missile at maximum range in the Pacific in order to achieve some psychological advantage. The consensus of the Board was that the results of such activity would not be likely to benefit the U.S.

6. Coordination of Statements on Missile Shots and Other Activities

Mr. Gray reminded the Board of the OCB responsibility for coordinating public announcements on U.S. or Soviet missile shots, and commented on the circumstances surrounding the immediate release of information on last week's Soviet shot.

He suggested that the procedure established by the NSC in May 1957 (Actions 1705 and 1712) which had been designed for atomic tests, be applied to missiles, chemical and bacteriological warfare activities, and reconnaissance satellites. It was agreed that the OCB Working Group should attempt a draft of such a procedure.

7. Clearance of Speeches

Mr. Gray reminded the members of the obligation that senior U.S. officials have to clear any speeches which might affect foreign relations, with the State Department.

8. Sprague Committee

Mr. Merchant said the State Department was waiting to nominate a staff officer to the Sprague Committee as soon as a formal request

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is received. He said that he himself would be the alternate to the Secretary of State and that the staff officer would be Edmund Gullion. Mr. Gray said a formal request would be forthcoming in the near future.

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C. P. CABELL
General, USAF
Deputy Director

(actually signed 1/30/60)

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